

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 1984

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINR CSCE CZ

SUBJECT PLZEN TRIAL

REFS A. PRAGUE 914, B. PRAGUE 956 C. PRAGUE 859

1. SUMMARY: DISTRICT COURT AT PLZEN SENTENCED THREE YOUNG PEOPLE TO TERMS RANGING FROM EIGHT MONTHS TO TWO-AND-HALF YEARS FOR "ORGANIZED RIOTING." END OF SUMMARY.

2. THE DEFENDENTS WERE AMONG SOME TWENTY INDIVIDUALS CONNECTED WITH THE RONO GROUP PLASTIC PEOPLE OF THE UNIVERSE, DG 307 (MEDICAL CODE NAME FOR PARANOIA APPARENTLY FOUND IN CZECH MEDICAL BOOKS)

AND WHO WERE ARRESTED IN EARLY APRIL (SEE REFTELS).

DEFENDENTS CONVICTED ON CHARGE OF "ORGANIZED RIOTING." I.E., OF ENABLING THREE OTHER PEOPLE TO LECTURE AND PERFORM SONGS AT A YOUTH CLUB AT PRESTICE NEAR PLZEN. THE SONGS WERE SAID TO CONTAIN OBSCENE WORDS. THE PERFORMERS WERE:

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IVAN JIROUS - DESCRIBED AS THEORIST OF PSYCHEDELIC ART;

SVATOPLUK KARASEK - AUTHOR SINGER AND CZECH EVANGELICAL
MINISTER WHO HAS BEEN DEPRIVED OF HIS CHURCH FUNCTIONS BY THE
THE STATE;

KAREL SOUKUP, GUITARIST.

3. ALL OF THE CONVICTED PLEADED NOT GUILTY AND REFUSED TO ADMIT
THAT THERE WAS ANY ORGANIZATION TO THEIR ACTIVITIES; THE
CONVICTED ARE:

KAREL HAVELKA, AGE 26, BUILDING FOREMAN, TWO-AND-ONE-
HALF YEARS IN PRISON.

MIROSLAV SKALICKY, AGE 25, CARPTENTER, ONE-AND-ONE HALF
YEARS.

FRANTISKE STAREK, AGE 23, WORKER, EIGHT MONTHS.

4. ACCORDING TO REUTERS JOURNALIST, WHO PASSED ABOVE INFO TO
EMBOFF, AT LEAST TEN OF THOSE ARRESTED IN APRIL ARE STILL IN JAIL
AWAITING TRIAL. IT IS RUMORED THAT SECOND TRIAL WILL OPEN IN
PRAGUE WEEK OF JULY 12.

5. COMMENT: TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, NO REPORTS
OF PLZEN TRIAL HAVE APPEARED IN CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS,
NOR HAVE WE HEARD MUCH DISCUSSION OF IT. GIVEN PRESENT
APATHETIC ATTITUDES WHICH PREVAIL IN PRESENTDAY
CZECHOSLOVAKIA, WE DOUBT THAT THIS WILL BECOME A CAUSE CELEGRE.
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